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File No.: 3552/OK414

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Date: August 5, 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Sunao TAKATORI and Hisanori KIYOMATSU

Serial No: 10/089,122

Filed: March 22, 2002

For: AUTHENTICATION MANAGEMENT APPARATUS AND STORE
COMMUNICATION TERMINAL

AFFIRMATION OF PRIORITY CLAIM

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Sir:

Priority has been claimed on the basis of Japanese Patent Application

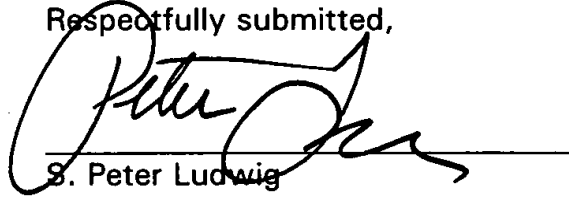
No: 2000-226163, filed July 27, 2000.

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
August 5, 2002
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A Certified copy of the aforesaid Japanese Patent Application was received by the International Bureau on September 10, 2001 during the pendency of International Application No. PCT/JP01/06299.

Applicant herewith affirms the priority claim of the aforesaid Japanese patent application under U.S.C. §119.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Peter Ludwig", is written over a horizontal line.

S. Peter Ludwig
Reg. No. 25,351
Attorney for Applicant(s)

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